

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for indexing a database table, said table comprising a column of values, the method comprising the steps of:

identifying a plurality of substrings, each substring comprising one or more characters; and

for each substring creating a corresponding index over the column such that a plurality of substring-specific indices, each corresponding to a particular substring from among the plurality of substrings, are created for the same column, wherein each corresponding index includes a respective entry for each value in the column, the respective entry for a particular value being indicative of whether a the corresponding substring occurs in the particular value.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the respective entry for the particular value is indicative of a number of occurrences of the corresponding substring in the particular value.

3. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, the method further comprising the step of:

running a query on the database table, including identifying a set of values that potentially satisfy the query based on the plurality of corresponding indices.

4. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 3, wherein the step of running the query further comprises the steps of:

scanning the set of values to find matching values satisfying the query; and generating a result set of the matching values.

5. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 4, wherein the step of identifying the set of values includes the step of:

for each value, combining the respective entries from the corresponding indices.

6. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 4, wherein the query includes a LIKE phrase.

7. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 4, wherein the step of running the query further comprises the steps of:

identifying a search term in the query;

separating the search term into a plurality of search substrings, each search substring corresponding to one of the plurality of substrings; and

for each substring corresponding to a search substring, building its corresponding index to generate a set of built indices.

8. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 7, wherein each search substring has a length of two characters.

9. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 7, wherein there are 100 search substrings representing, in character format, the numeric range from 00 to 99.

10. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 7, wherein the step of identifying a set of values that potentially satisfy the query includes the step of:

for each value, combining its respective entries from each of the built indices to generate a composite entry, the composite entry indicative of whether all the search substrings occur within the value.

11. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 10, wherein each respective entry is a binary value; and the respective entries are logically combined to generate the composite entry.

12. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

building a bitmap over the column, each element of the bitmap corresponding to a value of the column and each bitmap element value determined based on the composite entry for the corresponding value, each such bitmap element value being on if the composite entry indicates that all the search substrings occur within the value, otherwise the value being off.

13. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 12, wherein the step of scanning further includes:

scanning those values having a bitmap element with an on value.

14. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

maintaining a history of received queries; and

identifying one or more of the plurality of substrings based on the history.

15. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 14, wherein the step of identifying one or more of the plurality of substrings includes the steps of:

tracking a number of occurrences of a particular search substring within the received queries; and

determining when the number of occurrences exceed a predetermined threshold.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for executing a query on a database table, said table comprising a column of values, the apparatus comprising:

at least one processor;

a memory coupled with the at least one processor;

a plurality of substring-specific indices stored within said memory and corresponding to the same column in said table, wherein each index corresponds to

a particular one of a plurality of substrings and each index includes a respective entry for each value in the column, the respective entry in each index indicative of whether a corresponding substring to which such index corresponds occurs within the value for which the respective entry is included; and

a program code residing in the memory and executed by the at least one processor, the program code configured to scan the values of the table based on a combination of the plurality of indices.

18. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the program code is further configured to:

build a bitmap based on the plurality of indices, the bitmap having an element for each value of the column that is set based on the respective entries for that value from the plurality of indices.

19. (Currently Amended) A program product for indexing a database table, said table comprising a column of values, comprising:

program code configured upon execution thereof to:

identify a plurality of substrings, each substring comprising one or more characters, and

for each substring, create a corresponding index over the column such that a plurality of substring-specific indices, each corresponding to a particular substring from among the plurality of substrings, are created for the same column, wherein each corresponding index includes a respective entry for each value in the column, the respective entry for a particular value being indicative of whether a the corresponding substring occurs in the particular value; and

a computer readable storage medium storing the program code.

20. (Canceled).